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Information on the technical cooperation programme of the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

SUMMARY

The present addendum to the report on United Nations technical cooperation activities provides detailed information on the activities of the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (DTCD) of the United Nations Secretariat, and includes a description of the work in its main substantive areas: development issues and policies; natural resources and energy; public administration and finance; statistics; population; and social development and humanitarian affairs. The report also includes information on DTCD programme support services, and work in conjunction with the World Food Programme (WFP).

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INTRODUCTION

1. In 1990, the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (DTCD) of the United Nations Secretariat had under execution 997 technical cooperation projects with a total delivery of $US 181.6 million against current year budgets of $224.8 million. The present addendum to document DP/1991/41 contains information on the substantive and managerial aspects of the work of the Department during the year. Data on project delivery are contained in document DP/1991/41/Add.3.

I. SUBSTANTIVE AREAS

A. Development issues and policies

2. DTCD executed 157 projects in development issues and policies in 1990 with a delivery of $36.4 million in comparison with a delivery of $37.1 million in 1989.

3. In 1990, the persistently high levels of international indebtedness, declining prices of primary commodities and unfavourable balances of trade, accompanied by higher prices for products many developing countries must import, aggravated already difficult economic conditions. Other factors exogenous to these countries' economies, including global political and economic instability, had a severe negative impact. Economic problems were particularly serious in much of Africa.

4. DTCD helped developing countries to cope with these challenges under its mandate in the field of development planning in such areas of immediate applicability as debt management, public sector investment programming, economic and financial management and the monitoring and management of structural adjustment programmes. The Department's main focus in development planning in 1990, however, continued to be national capacity building. New methodological and operational approaches to planning and management were also developed to help Governments programme the full range of financial and technical cooperation available.

5. One such innovative approach, begun in 1990 and funded jointly by Japan and the United Nations regular programme for technical cooperation, is the DTCD/Japan Initiative for Financing the Human, Institutional, Technical and Management Capacities of Developing Countries in Development Planning (with a Special Focus on Africa). Under this project, a study of the impact of technical cooperation in development planning, aimed at improving future assistance, began in selected countries. Work also began on comparative analyses of development planning experiences in selected Asian and African countries to draw lessons, as appropriate, for application in Africa. Planning institutes were also upgraded, which should contribute significantly to overall capacity building in Africa.

6. DTCD helped countries in all regions to prepare and install computerized data banks and information systems for planning and monitoring public sector investment programmes and coordinating external financial and technical cooperation. An international workshop in this field, held in El Salvador with participants from Central America, the Caribbean and Africa, included a strong technical cooperation

among developing countries (TCDC) component. DTCD also helped Ecuador and Nicaragua develop and operate comprehensive systems for national economic management which link such key government centres as planning and finance ministries, central banks and statistical offices.

7. DTCD provided assistance for technical developments of conceptual, methodological and operational natures in several African countries. Models linking spatial (subnational regional) planning to investment project planning were applied in Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal. A new system using social indicators (tableau de bord) to monitor structural adjustment programmes was introduced in Niger and Senegal, as was a model for human resources and employment planning, particularly in the public sector in relation to structural adjustment programmes. All these models and systems are now operated by national staff.

8. In 1990, DTCD renewed its work in long-term perspective planning in a number of countries, an emphasis expected to grow.

9. Missions to Bhutan, Iran and Myanmar advised Governments on economic development planning in the context of major economic changes. Afghanistan was advised on planning its economic reconstruction; Bangladesh on technical needs in long-term strategic and in medium-term planning, policy development and macroeconomic management; and Seychelles on preparing a national environmental management plan. In a joint mission with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Department also advised the Government of Namibia on preparing a national physical development strategy and plan.

10. Under country-specific projects, the Gambia received help in preparing a national conference on planning and statistics in conjunction with a donors' round table. Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique were also helped to prepare for round tables. As lead agency and in collaboration with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and UNDP, the Department helped the Government of Sierra Leone to install an institutional database for economic and financial management systems and establish an improved institutional structure for government planning and finance activities; in the same country, DTCD assisted in macroeconomic planning and public investment programming. Seminars in Nigeria trained 1,500 federal and state middle- and high-level staff (as well as trainers) in development planning, investment project planning and the design and management of structural adjustment programmes. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire received help in a broad range of planning efforts related to structural adjustment. A project in the Congo, aimed at improving management of international cooperation, included a strong policy component to strengthen national capacities to mobilize and monitor external financial and technical resources.

11. Under its mandate in integrated rural community development, DTCD helped Oman carry out a social development programme stressing a grass-roots, participatory, multidimensional approach to local development. In its second phase, this project was expanded from a community development effort in three villages to a national multisectoral programme supporting Oman's requirements in community development, women's and children's activities and the rehabilitation of the disabled. A

project in Saudi Arabia grew from a single training and research centre to a national programme providing advisory services to public and private institutions to improve staff skills in this field. In the Central African Republic, Liberia and Swaziland, as well as in Oman and Saudi Arabia, projects enhanced women's role in development by reducing their work burden and providing training in income-generating activities, child care, nutrition, sanitation and environmental protection. The Central African Republic project played a catalytic role in developing a large-scale community development programme aimed at mitigating the social impact of structural adjustment. A group of projects in Laos assisted in the training of agricultural extension workers, the eradication and substitution of opium production and in integrated rural development in specific areas of the country.

B. Natural resources and energy

1. Energy

12. DTCD executed 106 projects in the energy field during 1990, with delivery of $18.8 million, compared with $11.7 million in 1989. Advisory missions were undertaken in such areas as energy policy; resource evaluation and exploration; project design and feasibility studies in petroleum, coal, natural gas, electric power, energy planning and conservation; geothermal, solar, wind and multi-source renewable energy packages; information systems; and microcomputer-based energy analysis.

13. The short-term impact of the dramatically higher oil prices of 1990, due to the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, revived interest in exploiting indigenous energy resources and exploring fuel substitution options and conservation and efficiency measures wherever applicable.

14. In the field of petroleum resources development, a $6.8 million project was begun in Xinjiang Province, China, to assist the Ministry of Geology and Mineral Resources in drilling two 6,000-metre demonstration wells in the Tarim Basin. Assistance was provided to several institutes in China to establish engineering capabilities in well completion and in acidizing and fracturing techniques. New projects on natural gas development and utilization, including compressed natural gas for trucking and mass transportation, were also being formulated. In India, efforts to strengthen capabilities in petroleum production technologies and seismic survey techniques continued. Postgraduate programmes in petroleum engineering were being established in Iran, where there is a serious shortage of petroleum engineers, and in Thailand, where they are practically non-existent.

15. With coal receiving increasing attention from developing countries as an energy source, DTCD promoted clean coal technologies and the alleviation of negative environmental impacts of coal combustion. For example, in China a project was started to institutionalize environmental impact studies for new coal-fired power stations and environmental policies to improve air quality. In Eastern Europe, a regional project aimed at computerized monitoring of coal-mining operations stressed safety and environmental aspects. DTCD has established a

network in the seven participating countries to coordinate research, development and marketing of the computer system, with a training centre in Czechoslovakia, fully equipped with microcomputers and telecommunications equipment. Under a follow-up project now being formulated, the system will be expanded to include economic management and data acquisition.

16. Peru was among many developing countries to make progress in energy conservation. In 1990, a project to strengthen the Centre for Energy Conservation (CENERGIA) completed a national energy conservation campaign and detailed energy audits in many major industries and transport systems. Assistance to productive sector firms in the implementation of energy saving measures in 1989-1990 helped save over 200,000 barrels of oil. Anticipated savings of oil imports for 1991-1992 are some 600,000 barrels. CENERGIA now earns half of its operating budget from fees from clients, a figure expected to increase. In India, under a national energy conservation auditing programme, four energy vans were built locally for regional lead agencies which carry out industrial transport, residential and commercial sector energy audits.

17. Environmental impacts of energy production, conversion and use received increased attention. Projects focused on energy utilization practices in the industrial, transport and residential/commercial sectors that conserve energy and reduce emissions in India, Peru and Zambia; higher efficiency and lower emissions from fossil fuel burning electric power plants in Bangladesh, China, Jordan and Viet Nam; environmental monitoring of coal-mining activities, including coal washing and desulphurization technologies in China and Eastern Europe; protection of fragile ecosystems from geothermal waste fluids disposal in Bolivia, China and Kenya; and promotion of environmentally benign solar and wind energy in Afghanistan, Cape Verde, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iraq, Mongolia and the Sudan.

18. In energy planning and policy, interest rose in energy conservation and policy management. Concerned over sharply rising energy prices, Governments sought to increase the efficiency of energy sector operations, to reduce non-competitive pricing and to develop national staff capabilities. In response to these concerns, three workshops were held at the United Nations Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) training centre on integrated energy planning.

19. Within the DTCD programme for power plant modernization and rehabilitation, projects continued in China, Guinea-Bissau and Viet Nam. A large labour force development project in the electric power sector was initiated in Bangladesh. Most other projects in the electric power area focused on power system loss reduction and on improved operation, maintenance and management of power plants and transmission and distribution lines.

20. Regarding new and renewable energy resources, photovoltaic (PV) conversion of sunlight to electrical energy is becoming increasingly important as equipment prices continue to decline. In Pakistan, a major project to install centralized PV systems in four demonstration villages drew to a close. An important lesson learned from this project was that administrative and technical problems, combined with high (though falling) equipment prices, make a centralized village approach inappropriate in most cases. In the future, there will be more emphasis on smaller

decentralized PV application systems for water pumping, medical refrigerators, rural telecommunications and public and domestic lighting. Such was the focus of a project in western China, where standardized small systems were being developed for local production and deployment, and also of work in Mongolia, where small systems were being produced for nomadic herders. A new project in the Sudan, where many such application systems have been deployed, will train staff in the installation and maintenance of PV systems.

21. In wind energy, dramatically falling equipment prices now make this an attractive option for central, grid connected power at favourable sites. There is thus renewed interest in detailed wind resource surveys, using modern instrumentation and computer software. A new project in Syria exemplified this trend. At the same time, very small and portable wind battery chargers were manufactured for nomadic herdsmen in a project in Mongolia.

22. In geothermal energy, a major project in Laguna Colorada (Bolivia) neared completion after drilling five deep geothermal wells which will produce enough fluid to operate a 6 MW demonstration plant to be installed in 1991. With additional drilling, the field's capacity has been estimated to be at least 150 MW. A project in Tibet, China, is optimizing power generation at the Yangbajain geothermal power station and increasing the geothermal fluid production of the field. It will also assess the reservoir capacity of the Nadqu geothermal field with a view to installing a one-megawatt binary cycle power plant, and is exploring the promising area of Nyingzhong. In the Eastern Caribbean island countries of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Montserrat, an exploration project assessed geothermal potential and the viability of transmitting geothermal-based electrical power among these islands by submarine cables. The project will also assess the volcanic risk associated with these volcanically active islands.

23. DTCD organized two interregional seminars in the energy field: Electrification and Power Generation for Developing Countries (Jyväskylä, Finland, 10 to 21 June 1990); and Petroleum Exploration in the Indian Ocean (Victoria Mahé, Seychelles, 10 to 15 December 1990).

2. Water

24. Delivery in the water resource sector was $26.3 million in 1990, compared with $24.2 million in 1989. During the year, 116 projects were under execution and advisory missions were undertaken in water resources planning, engineering, legislation, well drilling, computerized data management and hydrogeology.

25. DTCD assistance focused on water resources planning and management, including conjunctive use and multi-objective planning of both surface and groundwater resources, with emphasis on social, economic, legal and technical considerations. Such multi-sectoral projects were executed in China, Senegal, the Sudan and Yemen. Water resource master plans neared completion in Cape Verde, Mali, Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania, and will comprise the basic documentation for donor conferences in those countries.

26. Projects increasingly used computer technologies for storing, checking, processing, retrieving and mapping data on variables such as rainfall, run-off, river flows, lake levels and aquifer characteristics, as well as for mathematical modelling in hydrology, hydrogeology and planning. DTCD developed, published and disseminated free computer software on groundwater, and made use of existing data banks for computer-assisted mapping. Such activities were undertaken in Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Mali and Niger. Training in the use of DTCD groundwater software has been conducted in several countries.

27. Responding to increased government emphasis on environmental issues and on sustainable development of water resources in particular, DTCD developed an overall strategy in this sector comprising effective management, protection and monitoring of water quality; water-related aspects of environmental protection; clean-up of polluted bodies of water; and protection of marine and coastal environments. For example, the regional project to manage the water resources of the Lake Chad Basin helped formulate strategies to restore lake levels gradually and satisfy multi-purpose water requirements of participating countries under an environmentally sound approach. The performance and impact of high dams and reservoirs, as well as sedimentation problems are being monitored in countries such as India and Pakistan. Morocco received help with the exploitation of deep-aquifer systems; Qatar with the related problems of over-pumping and sea water intrusion into groundwater aquifers; Bangladesh and Viet Nam with soil erosion and floods; and countries such as the Central African Republic, Chad and Madagascar with developing rural drinking water supplies. In the Sudan, a project focused on preventing excessive development of water resources; in Somalia, a project to rehabilitate water wells increased the number of water points to reduce concentrations of livestock; while projects in Jordan and Yemen improved monitoring and control of water quality.

28. Advisory missions on water legislation helped Mozambique to draft a new water law, Yemen to modify existing legislation and the Bahamas to draft laws protecting groundwater. In conjunction with World Bank programmes, Brazil and Venezuela were helped to assess legal and economic constraints on the proper use of water.

29. DTCD sought to involve women in the operation, maintenance and management of water installations in rural areas. In Niger, under a pump maintenance project, national teams of social workers and (female) sociologists visited the villages to provide basic education, especially to women, in pump use, water conservation and hygiene. Committees of five persons, including at least one woman, were organized to collect funds from villagers for spare parts and for the payment of craftspeople trained in pump repair. A new project in Mauritania addressed the needs of rural women by promoting market gardening, the raising of livestock, small handicrafts and environmental protection. This work is in line with a guiding principle of the Global Consultation on Safe Water and Sanitation for the 1990s (New Delhi, 10 to 14 September 1990), in which DTCD participated and helped to ensure that women's involvement in all aspects of water sector planning and management was stressed. Also, in collaboration with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and with funds from the regular programmes, work continued on revising and updating INSTRAW training modules on "women, water supply and sanitation", which promote women's roles in project preparation, planning,

monitoring and evaluation, maintenance, management and training and environmental protection.

30. Efforts to help upgrade the skills of water resources professionals and sub-professionals included two major seminars in 1990: an International Workshop on Water Resources Planning and Management (Beijing, 2 to 6 April), jointly sponsored with the State Commission of Science and Technology of China; and an Interregional Seminar on the Mobilization of Resources for Optimal Water Development, Allocation and Conservation (Mérida, Venezuela, 3 to 7 December). A DTCD-executed regional project supporting two drilling schools in West Africa is training drilling technicians and engineers, as well as mechanics and foremen, from francophone and lusophone countries.

31. In line with the trend towards national execution of projects, DTCD assisted India in carrying out a series of institutional support projects, some wholly executed by the Government and others in which DTCD provided only technical expertise unavailable nationally. This culmination of years of national capacity building to the point at which country institutions can implement complex technical projects with minimal external support has also occurred in many other countries, where short-term consultancies are more the rule than resident experts in projects.

32. DTCD worked with other United Nations entities in various interdisciplinary inter-agency teams. The water sectors of Morocco and Namibia were reviewed under the aegis of UNDP, and DTCD helped the World Bank to assess water resources in Africa south of the Sahara. A project executed by DTCD to assess the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan was a joint effort of several United Nations agencies. The World Bank provided urban water sanitation and community development inputs to the water master plan for Guinea-Bissau under a DTCD-executed project and worked with DTCD to identify water sector activities in the Comoros. DTCD is also a full-time member of the Steering Committee of the UNDP/World Bank project for a hydrological assessment of sub-Saharan Africa.

33. Several projects, such as a water resources assessment, planning and development project in the Caribbean, completed in 1990, generated a total of $46.5 million in follow-up investments.

3. Mineral resources

34. DTCD executed 96 projects in the mineral resources field in 1990, with a delivery of $17.3 million, up from $15.2 million in 1989. Advisory missions were undertaken in mineral sector planning, programming, exploration, beneficiation, feasibility studies, mining, geophysical airborne surveys, institution strengthening, investment promotion, legislation and computer applications.

35. During the first half of 1990, the price of non-metallic minerals remained high, while gold dropped to under $400 per ounce for most of the year. In late 1990, largely as a result of a slow-down in the world economy and the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, the prices of copper, nickel and other base metals began a slow decline, with aluminium being the most affected. This trend, is not, however, expected to drive prices to the extremely depressed levels of 1985/1986.

36. In Africa, greater interest in investment promotion prompted efforts to streamline mineral sector management and up-date mining codes. A number of mineral exploration projects now have legal assistance components. In Guinea-Bissau and Togo, for example, DTCD helped formulate new mining codes; DTCD assistance was requested for the preparation of a new mining investment code in Benin; and Gabon requested help in updating its mining law. A new project in Angola is strengthening national capabilities in the minerals sector, reorganizing the country's technical departments and modernizing its legislative framework.

37. DTCD helped Mauritania assess the sulphur potential of its coastal basin, while exploration projects in Burundi, the Cameroon, Gabon, and Togo yielded substantial results which are now being followed up.

38. In the Sahel, some $5 million were allocated in 1990 for DTCD-assisted projects in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger. At least one deposit of gold and/or base metal was discovered in Burkina Faso and Mali. In Niger, a new project assisted minerals sector institutions and exploration in the Liptako area. The project will also help other bilateral and multilateral projects in the region with such inputs as a regional geophysical survey, regional mapping, drilling equipment and ground geophysical surveys. In Chad, a mineral sector assessment project concluded in 1990 will be followed by a five-year project to evaluate further the sector's potential.

39. In Ethiopia, some $1 million provided through four projects helped train national geologists, geophysicists, geochemists and mining technicians, upgrade the graduate programme of the University of Addis Ababa, reinforce mineral development legislation and promote investment. In Mozambique, DTCD helped train national experts, carry out field studies and evaluate the short-term economic potential of mineral occurrences. Efforts to develop mineral resources were made in Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe where DTCD is now evaluating projects. In Ghana, the State Gold Mining Corporation (SGMC) was helped to enter into joint venture negotiations with a Canadian group for the Prestea mine in south-west Ghana. Another project strengthened the Mines Department in that country.

40. A computerized mineral title management system was set up in Morocco and an interregional seminar on computerized mineral title management and associated databases was organized in Rabat in November and December 1990 by the Government, UNDP and DTCD, with support from the Government of France.

41. Assistance to Asia covered an equally wide range of activities. In India, a major new project in Nagpur helped set up a National Drilling Training Centre in cooperation with the Mineral Exploration Corporation which will provide training in the latest mineral, water and geothermal drilling techniques to institutions throughout the region. Testing of low-grade phosphate ore from western Iran identified a technically viable process for producing a marketable concentrate. Further testing is now determining its economic viability.

42. In Malaysia, a new mining code, model agreement and mineral title system were developed and are expected to encourage mineral investments. In Sarawak, technical

monitoring, quality control and training were provided for an airborne geophysical survey, and in 1991, DTCD will undertake interpretation of the data. DTCD provided advice and equipment for the evaluation and mining of small-scale gold deposits in western Nepal, and a feasibility study of a zinc-lead deposit in the Himalayas was launched. In Pakistan, a technically viable process for extracting sulphur from volcanic deposits in Baluchistan was confirmed by testing at a national laboratory. A major feasibility study of the zinc-lead deposit, discovered through a DTCD-executed project north of Karachi, was approved by UNDP in December.

43. In the Arab States, the regional Yemeni Joint Project for Natural Resources neared completion of airborne geophysical surveys and interpretation of geophysical anomalies and satellite imagery for mineral resources evaluation. A new regional project in Jordan and Yemen will help evaluate, promote and manage mineral resources development in those countries. In Yemen, a new project will establish a mining policy, revise mining legislation and strengthen the minerals sector of the unified State of Yemen. 1/

44. In the Americas, a project in Bolivia completed an evaluation of precious metals prospection in three geological environments, and an investment promotion brochure is now being prepared. In the industrial minerals sector, Jamaica received help in setting up a mining task force to open marble quarries for evaluation and production efforts. In Paraguay, a project identified and assessed resources for potential development and was instrumental in the creation of the Sub-secretariat of Mining, the first government office to be concerned with mineral resources development. The Dominican Republic was advised on legal issues and negotiation strategies in connection with petroleum exploration and production agreements. DTCD helped Carbones de Colombia (CARBOCOL), the State coal mining firm, to appraise its global competitive position. In 1990, the project completed an analysis of investment agreement options, as well as a manual for negotiating joint ventures and agreements for large-scale coal operations.

4. Infrastructure: cartography, remote sensing and public works

45. In the fields of cartography, remote sensing and public works, 57 projects were executed during 1990, with a total delivery of $8.4 million, compared with $9.0 million in 1989.

46. Technical cooperation projects in cartography, surveying, mapping and hydrography included institution-building, transfer of technical expertise to national cartographic and hydrographic institutions and provision of training and equipment.

47. Fellowships and grants were awarded to candidates for studies in data processing, photogrammetry, cartography/map compilation, cadastral and land information systems, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), integrated digital mapping, geodetic science, map reproduction and map printing.

48. DTCD continued to provide assistance in remote sensing to the Arab world and to countries in the region covered by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia

and the Pacific (ESCAP). Assistance included advice on the feasibility of remote-sensing projects and helping resource managers to gather data for locating, managing and monitoring natural resources. Advisory services to remote-sensing training programmes focused on the use of satellite remote-sensing data from new sensors, assessing the use of remotely sensed data and identifying remote-sensing requirements for natural resources development.

49. Projects in public works involved planning, design and the development of new physical infrastructures, as well as emphasis on the inspection, evaluation, rehabilitation, upgrading, maintenance and restoration of existing works. Many projects stressed the transfer of appropriate technology, related training and specialized equipment. For example, cooperation between DTCD and India resulted in a large programme to train Indian nationals in railway wagon and coach design. Another project, in Swaziland, provided training in road development and supervised highway construction financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

50. During 1990, two projects in the rural areas of central Malawi developed capacities to plan, survey, design and construct reinforced concrete bridges and connecting roads, with self-help from villagers. These projects were so successful that a similar pair of projects for the entire southern region is now being planned. Under a pioneering transport planning project in Zambia, DTCD helped to establish a database for all modes of transport in the country; 19 studies leading to the formulation and approval of a transport strategy and policy were prepared, and an institutional capability was developed in the Transport Planning Unit, including trained national professionals. A large-scale continuation of this project, to start in 1991, has been requested.

51. In a sector not normally conducive to the participation of women, key professional positions are held by women in two large-scale public works and transport projects in Malawi and Zambia. DTCD has continued to work towards increasing the number of women experts and women in training activities in these areas.

52. An Interregional Seminar on Land Information Management in the Developing World was organized by DTCD with the Australian Trade Commission (Adelaide, 4 to 14 February 1990). To implement resolutions of the Eleventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, 5 to 16 January 1987), 2/ a Workshop on Training and Transfer of Technology in Digital Cartographic Systems for Digital Mapping was convened at the United Nations Office at Vienna in September-October 1990.

C. Public administration and finance

53. During 1990, DTCD executed 122 projects in the field of public administration and finance, with a delivery of $26.5 million, compared with $20.8 million in 1989.

54. As a result of persistent administrative and managerial bottlenecks in public sector performance in many developing countries and the deepening economic crisis in LDCs, increased technical assistance was provided in 1990 for the reform of

public administration and management systems. New needs arising from structural changes in Eastern Europe, combined with the existing needs of the traditional recipient developing countries, created a heavy demand for technical assistance. Overall, projects were aimed at strengthening the implementation capacity of the public sector, realigning public service structures and processes, reassessing and sharpening the role of the civil service and strengthening the capacity of the service to promote economic recovery and development.

55. Efforts to improve civil service reform methodologies included a new project in nine African and two Pacific countries to study the impact of size and cost of the civil service on its efficiency and effectiveness. DTCD continued to help Bhutan, Guinea, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea optimize planning for public sector human resource requirements through improved public personnel information systems and restructured central personnel agencies. In Indonesia, an integrated approach was taken to the classification of jobs, analysis of skills and career development and planning. In the Gambia, India, Indonesia, Lesotho and several countries in the Caribbean, projects were designed to improve curricula for management training and development.

56. The strengthening of management development agencies remained a central focus of DTCD technical cooperation. Assistance was given to the Lesotho Institute of Public Administration, the Management Development Institute in the Gambia and management departments in Burkina Faso, Niger and Swaziland.

57. DTCD played a lead role in the inter-agency task force that monitors the Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM) for Africa. The study sponsored by DTCD on the size and cost of the civil service will provide significant inputs to the SAPAM programme in the 1990s, including guidelines to help countries determine the optimal size of a civil service staff. The public administration programme of DTCD conducted major diagnostic missions on behalf of the Management Development Programme (MDP) to the Comoros, Jordan and Madagascar, a played a key role in evaluating the MDP by analysing the extent to which gender i ues had been addressed during the preceding two years.

58. Two seminars (Kuala Lumpur, 9 to 13 July and Ljubljana, 16 to 20 October 1990) on Policy Development for the Expansion of Women's Participation in Public Management culminated in the production of training packages in this field. In addition, a workshop was conducted in Kenya to launch a project on management policy development in support of the Kenya Sixth Development Plan.

59. In the field of electoral administration, DTCD consultant teams analysed electoral laws and regulations in Haiti and Nicaragua and made recommendations concerning the administration of the electoral process. In Nicaragua, following an evaluation of the status of civil registration a project was designed to solve the problems identified and to link civil registers to the organization of a permanent electoral register. In Haiti, assistance to the Provisional Electoral Council included a motivational and educational campaign targeted at the Creole speaking population and advice on the design of regulations and the organization and computerization of vote counting.

60. Much of the work of DTCD in public finance helped countries formulate appropriate fiscal and monetary measures to deal with growing deficits, external foreign debts and the dim prospects of obtaining net capital inflows. Efforts in such interrelated areas as the mobilization of resources, management of public spending and the reform of public enterprises were carried out through training and management development; improved tax policy and administration; budgeting, accounting and auditing systems and procedures; and increasing managerial efficiency and accountability.

61. For instance, tax administration systems were upgraded in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Kuwait, Malawi, Nepal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Republic of Tanzania. Other projects focused on fund control and accountability, as well as the auditing of the efficiency and effectiveness of operations in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Mauritius, the Netherlands Antilles, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

62. Projects to improve and rationalize public enterprises in such countries as Kenya, Malawi and Venezuela stressed improved performance and the introduction of policies to deal with financial difficulties. In a number of countries, computerized information systems were introduced not only to upgrade economic and financial management but also to enhance policy-making.

63. In regard to aid accountability, DTCD and the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) organized the Interregional Meeting on Government Auditing (Vienna, 12 to 18 September 1990). Participants from donor and recipient countries recommended the formation of a working group to harmonize the accountability requirements of various donors. This recommendation is being followed up in cooperation with the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

64. To promote the exchange of information and development experiences in public finance, DTCD also organized the Interregional Workshop on Improving Revenue Administration (Harare, 5 to 9 November 1990) with the Government of Zimbabwe and the Interregional Workshop on Computerization of Government Accounting (Valletta, 13 to 21 November 1990) with the Government of Malta.

D. Statistics

65. During 1990, DTCD executed 180 country projects and 19 inter-country projects in all fields of statistics and statistical data processing, including informatics, with a total expenditure of $28.3 million, compared with $28.4 million in 1989. Technical and interregional advisers and staff from the Statistical Office of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat undertook over 200 project-related or direct technical advisory missions to 95 countries.

66. Technical cooperation in the statistical field helps developing countries to strengthen their services and capabilities to collect, process, disseminate and use a broad range of development-related statistics. Assistance is provided in areas

such as general economic statistics and national accounts, as well as social and demographic statistics, statistics on women, statistics on special population groups, integrated statistical services, household surveys and statistical data processing and informatics. In 1990, emphasis was placed on the 1990 round of population and housing censuses, on those developing countries the least advanced in statistics, on work under the umbrella of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) and on improving statistics on the situation of women.

67. Support for statistical data processing increased rapidly as microcomputer technology has proven to be highly appropriate for developing countries. In 1990, DTCD executed 140 projects in all fields of statistics that had a data-processing component.

68. A key aspect of DTCD work is to facilitate national execution by developing national capabilities. Training was stressed in almost all forms of assistance and most country projects provided support for an explicit training component. In addition, the Statistical Office organized five regional training sessions in 1990 on the revision of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA): Addis Ababa (16 to 25 July); Bangkok (15 to 24 August); Suva (14 August to 7 September); Geneva (10 to 13 September); and Brazil (18 to 28 September). DTCD also continued funding an interregional project, begun in 1982-1983, for training junior statisticians and programmers thus strengthening the capabilities of and linkages among developing countries through TCDC. On the regional front, support continued for census training in sub-Saharan Africa with funds from UNFPA and Canada. National and subregional courses were organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), while, in collaboration with Statistics Canada, short-term training courses were held at Ottawa.

69. NHSCP, a major interregional project executed by DTCD and co-sponsored and/or supported by the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Bank, continued to develop national household survey capabilities as a means of collecting demographic, social and economic data for policy formulation; planning and programme evaluation; and co-ordinating the country-level technical cooperation efforts in this field of the United Nations development system, especially the the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the regional commissions. By the end of 1990, 45 countries had joined the programme. A total of 55 missions provided advisory services to these countries or helped formulate new programmes. Activities in 1990 stressed helping countries, especially in Africa, meet their data needs for structural adjustment-related policies. The Pan-Arab Project for Child Development (PAPCHILD) was helped to conduct surveys in four of the five participating countries which will enable ministries of health, social affairs, national child welfare councils and research and policy institutions to obtain reliable data for social policies and programmes. Three technical studies were issued on household income and expenditures surveys; measuring literacy through household surveys; and assessing the nutritional status of young children. Work proceeded on the following studies requested by countries: guidelines for estimation of sampling errors; sampling for rare and elusive populations in

household surveys; surveys on household consumption of energy; operational guidelines for measuring health through household surveys, and household surveys of agriculture in Africa.

70. An interregional project begun with UNFPA assistance in mid-1988 continued to support the development of national databases on women, population and development. In 1990, additional resources were provided to DTCD through trust funds to help countries to improve statistics on women. Technical missions assisted in project development and training in Botswana, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Pakistan and the South Pacific region. A Handbook for National Statistical Data Bases on Women and Development 3/ was published and a report on illustrative tabulations for census and survey statistics on women's economic activity and other work is under preparation. Substantial work was also done in Africa with INSTRAW and ECA to develop statistics on women's participation in the informal sector.

71. The Software and Support for Population Data Processing project, funded by UNFPA, continued to develop and deliver software to country projects and institutions, conduct training workshops and provide UNFPA and other units of the United Nations system with technical support. In 1990, the project delivered 1,215 data-processing and demographic software packages and conducted or participated in 12 workshops and meetings. Two new software applications were produced and will be released in 1991: PopMap, an integrated software that combines database, spreadsheet and mapping to create a computerized atlas of population data and related information; and Table, for producing frequencies and summary cross-tabulation of census and survey data.

E. Population

72. In 1990, DTCD executed 126 projects in this sector with a delivery of $10.4 million, compared with $9.6 million in 1989.

73. Skilled national experts assumed greater technical responsibility for projects in 1990. This trend went hand in hand with the emphasis on national training programmes in population through universities and workshops, seminars and ad hoc courses for non-academic audiences. Most programmes in population have now developed into programmes in population and socio-economic development, and microcomputer technology has become a dynamic aspect of all training and research programmes. An increasing number of projects were managed by national population specialists, thereby moving closer to self-reliance. Many projects developed the capacity to establish a research partnership with well-established institutions in developed countries and provided opportunities for TCDC.

74. In preparation for the analysis of the 1990 round of population censuses, DTCD helped Governments strengthen demographic analysis units in statistics and census bureaux and train personnel in this field through national, regional, interregional and other international technical cooperation programmes. In this context, there was greater demand for computer hardware and software for training in computer applications for demographic analysis, integration of population into development and population policy formulation.

75. In the area of population dynamics, 34 projects were implemented in 33 countries. Major emphasis continued to be on the evaluation and analysis of data from the 1980 round of population censuses and demographic surveys and on guidelines for the analysis of data from the 1990 censuses. In cooperation with ECA, DTCD organized a workshop in Ghana to train African demographers and planners in the use of microcomputers for analysis of census data. In addition, a subregional workshop was organized with the University of Montreal for francophone sub-Saharan African participants on the use of microcomputers for demographic analysis of censuses and surveys. Technical support for the evaluation and analysis of data from the 1980 round of censuses was given to 16 African countries; 7 Asian countries in Asia and the Pacific; 6 countries in the Americas; and 5 countries in Western Asia.

76. The team approach to demographic analysis continued to be adopted in a number of countries and is being encouraged in others. Staff demographers and local consultants composed such teams, with topics for analysis distributed among them depending on their individual expertise and interest. A national or an international expert (resident or consultant) or regional demographic adviser provided technical coordination for the analysis and helped to ensure technical consistency of the results. At periodic working seminars, work progress was reviewed and methodological issues discussed. This further ensured continuous "in-house" training for the entire staff and timely completion of the demographic analysis required. These strategies were successfully applied in a number of African countries.

77. With the need for analysis of census data well established by previous population census rounds, DTCD is helping developing countries to incorporate programmes of data analysis and dissemination into the 1990 population census design. In this connection, for every census analysis project, pre-census meetings of national data users and producers were held to identify the trends of potential census data users and to meet their needs to the extent possible in the detailed census analysis. Post-census seminars and workshops continued to be used to disseminate the findings of census analyses, particularly their implications for development planning.

78. In population policy and development planning, 36 country projects were implemented in 30 countries, primarily in Africa. Projects in Asia and Latin America were also assisted by DTCD, often without the services of resident experts. Work entailed assessment of population problems and needs; improving knowledge of the interaction between demographic and socio-economic factors; formulation of population policies; and integration of demographic factors in development planning.

79. The services of resident advisers in population and development and short-term consultants for specific topics were provided. In addition to formal training, national experts learned from the experience of other countries through their participation in national and interregional seminars organized in other countries. Techniques for integrating population variables into development planning and use of demo-economic models and related software were demonstrated at these seminars.

80. Most developing countries have defined their population policies in the context of development, but only modest efforts have been made to integrate population variables into development planning. Greater stress was thus placed on techniques and models for integrating such variables into the development process.

81. Efforts to increase women's role in all DTCD-assisted population programmes continued. Special consideration was given to women candidates for training opportunities and to recruiting qualified women as international resident advisers and consultants. Progress was also made in gender sensitive tabulation and analysis of socio-economic data for censuses and surveys. A microcomputer-based model on women in development, especially in rural agricultural settings, was developed and tested and is being modified to include other modules.

82. DTCD continued to sponsor training through the Cairo Demographic Centre and United Nations/Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Interregional Training Programme in Population and Development. International training workshops on Microcomputer Applications for Population and Development (Hungary), Use of Population Projections (Poland), and Integration of Demographic and Social Variables in Development Planning (Bulgaria) trained 155 persons (50 per cent women) from 110 developing countries; 209 fellowships were awarded at institutions not sponsored by the United Nations.

F. Social development and humanitarian affairs

83. In 1990, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) of the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) provided substantive support on behalf of DTCD to projects in the social development field totalling almost $1 million. A common characteristic was the focus on building national capacities and strengthening institutions for social progress and development. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) made major contributions to this effort in partnership with Governments, ranging from direct implementation of projects to more specific project tasks. Responding to a growing preoccupation with the social objectives of development, the two CSDHA interregional advisers undertook 24 missions to 18 developing countries to help with policy design, programme formulation and evaluation. In addition, specialized ad hoc advisory services were provided on request with emphasis on improving the situation of specific social groups.

84. With many Governments formulating national plans and development strategies for the 1990s, substantial technical cooperation supported the organization and conduct of social situation analyses and the formulation of integrated social development policies, strategies and programmes. For example, the Department of Social Affairs of the Government of Indonesia received help in assessing salient social welfare and development issues and trends as inputs to the preparation of its country's national development strategy for the period 1990-2015. The Ministry of Social Affairs of the Government of Chad was helped to prepare a social inventory and situation analysis, whose findings and recommendations will be reviewed during the round-table consultative process at a forthcoming national social sector workshop.

85. Establishment and development of national institutions concerned with the situation of specific social groups remained a major area for technical cooperation in the social field. In Guinea, the National Centre for Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons was helped to train national personnel and thereby expand its range of disability services with financing from UNDP, bilateral sources and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, administered by CSDHA. Djibouti was helped to establish a new institution and build national capacities for disability prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities with resources from UNDP, the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND) and the Voluntary Fund.

86. Major initiatives in crime prevention and control were taken in Africa and in the Americas. In the Americas, UNDP and bilateral sources financed region-wide assistance to demonstration schemes on crime prevention, legal assistance and criminal justice reform in Argentina, Costa Rica, Honduras, Peru, Nicaragua and Venezuela. With regular programme resources, CSDHA provided Ghana, Mauritius, Nigeria, Paraguay and Uganda with high-level advice on the design of national crime prevention and criminal justice infrastructure, including the computerization of criminal justice administration. To help mobilize resources for these initiatives, an annotated listing of technical cooperation project proposals in law enforcement and judicial structures, crime prevention measures, computerization of criminal justice and measures against corruption in Government was made available to potential donors and to the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Havana, 27 August to 7 September 1990).

87. Interregional training workshops and technical exchanges financed by the regular programme facilitated the sharing of knowledge and experiences and the promotion networking among interested centres and institutions. The Interregional Commemorative Seminar on the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Kiev, 2 to 12 September 1990), financed by a special USSR contribution to the Regular Programme, promoted awareness of the Convention and its relevance to national development. At the International Meeting on the Role and Functions of National Co-ordinating Committees on Disability in Developing Countries (Beijing, 5 to 11 November 1990), hosted by the China Federation of Disabled Persons, developing and developed country specialists adopted Guidelines on Establishing and Developing National Coordinating Committees on Disability.

II. SUPPORT SERVICES

A. Technical assistance recruitment and project personnel administration

88. The 1990 delivery for project personnel was $93.8 million, compared to $82.0 million in 1989.

89. Developing countries continued to demonstrate their ability to determine the configurations of the technical cooperation they required. An increasing number of countries took the initiative in identifying candidates whose services they sought. As in 1989, four out of five were short-term, high-level consultants.

90. As in the previous year, expertise in natural resources and energy was supplied predominantly from developed countries, while developing countries led in providing expertise in social fields. Overall, 66.6 per cent of recruits came from developed countries.

91. Following up on the first training workshop for English-speaking senior cadres of national recruitment services (NRS), held in Geneva in 1989, preparations were made for two similar workshops, one for French-speaking and one for Spanish-speaking officials, to be held in 1991. These workshops will enable developing countries to observe the operations of recruiting institutions in developed countries, to compare their observations in a workshop and to determine ways of either organizing new NRS or of improving existing ones. The longer-term goal is to increase the recruitment of developing country experts and consultants in United Nations technical cooperation programmes.

92. An important reform relating to mobility and hardship post benefits for all United Nations staff came into effect on 1 July 1990. DTCD applied the new system to project personnel without delay. A meeting was also convened in June 1990 in Geneva to brief the donor countries of the Associate Experts Programme on these new entitlements. Sponsored by CCAQ with the cooperation of the Technical Assistance Recruitment and Fellowships Office (TARFO) of DTCD, the meeting recommended that donor countries grant the new entitlements to associate experts. The need to increase the number of women recruited through the Associate Experts Programme was also dealt with at the meeting. Finally, a growing number of donor country Governments agreed to sponsor young developing country professionals as associate experts.

93. At the invitation of ESCAP, the regular biennial meeting of NRS was held at Bangkok in September 1990. It was the first time in many years that an NRS meeting had been convened in a developing country, and it was hoped that this step would encourage the participation of NRS from developing countries. The meeting stressed the need to increase the involvement of women and of developing country professionals in United Nations technical cooperation programmes and concluded that the establishment and growth of NRS in as many developing countries as possible was one of the best means of attaining those goals.

94. The reform of recruitment and administration procedures was pursued with a smaller staff complement. As in recent years, somewhat stabilized project budgets required more intense recruitment activities owing to the shift towards increased use of short-term consultant services, often with very little notice. To meet the pressure and challenge, the Technical Assistance Recruitment and Administration Service (TARAS) of DTCD continued to computerize, streamline, automate and standardize its methods and procedures.

B. Contracts and procurement service

95. In 1990, DTCD issued purchase orders and contracts totalling $53.6 million, compared with $46.5 million in 1989. Purchase of equipment accounted for about 80 per cent of the total value; the remaining 20 per cent was for the provision of services. In 1989, the respective rates were 85 and 15 per cent. By value, about 30 per cent of all purchase orders and contracts issued in 1990 were placed in developing countries.

96. The Contracts and Procurement Service of DTCD is developing a new computer-aided procurement system (CAPS) and has acquired 33 personal computers for this purpose which are being interconnected through a Local Area Network (LAN). Once fully operational, the system will enhance handling of procurement requests through its on-line and direct data access capabilities and provide improved transparency of the procurement process, as well as the tools for more systematic management and control.

97. DTCD continued to cooperate with the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office (IAPSO) and participated in the Fifteenth Inter-Agency Procurement Working Group, held at Tunis in May 1990.

C. Training

98. Expenditures for fellowships and training components amounted to $27.9 million in 1990. Africa had the largest share of 1990 expenditures, 47 per cent, or $13.2 million; Asia and the Pacific had 33 per cent, or $9.2 million; the Mediterranean, Middle East and interregional programmes had 16 per cent, or $4.5 million; and the Americas had 4 per cent, or $1.0 million.

99. In 1990, DTCD implemented a total of 4,453 training awards, including fellowships, study tours, seminars and workshops, compared with 4,045 in 1989. Fellows and participants from 148 countries were trained in 112 host countries. A large number of placements was made in the United States of America, followed by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania. Of these placements, 2,301, or 52 per cent, were arranged in developing countries, thus contributing to TCDC. A total of 1,224, or 30 per cent of the fellows, came from least developed countries. DTCD continued to encourage the participation of women; 772 awards were granted to women in 1990 (835 in 1989).

100. In the light of legislative changes made by the United Nations General Assembly (resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989) and the Governing Council of UNDP (especially, decisions 90/21 and 90/26 of 22 June and 90/37 of 20 June 1990), increased emphasis has been placed on the training of developing country officials to facilitate government execution of projects. In this regard, DTCD developed special training programmes for government officials in fellowship administration. The programme included project planning and formulation, budgetary implications, selection and evaluation of candidates for fellowships, policies and procedures governing the administration of fellowships, study tours, group training, seminars and workshops.

101. DTCD continued to cooperate with the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat by carrying out the operational activities of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA). In 1990, contributions and pledges amounted to $4.7 million, a slight increase over the previous year. The programme continued to emphasize training at technical and first degree levels in Africa in fields relevant to the development of southern Africa and to provide scholarships to South African and Namibian students, over half of whom are women. Scholarship agencies, NGOs and educational institutions continued to cooperate in co-sponsorship arrangements in an effort to increase the number of students assisted. UNETPSA has trained over 900 Namibians since 1982, including individuals who eventually assumed positions as members of the National Assembly of Namibia. Most of the recommendations made by an expert of the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) to strengthen the programme's administration were adopted by the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA) and implemented in 1990.

102. Under the arrangements of mutual co-operation between DTCD and the provincial government of Quebec, two fellows were granted lower tuition fees at universities in Quebec.

103. The administration of the training activities by the Fellowships Service of DTCD is being computerized. The use of computers and the application of office automation techniques have significantly enhanced the productivity and efficiency of the Fellowships Service.

104. TARFO continued to assemble, collate and disseminate information on training facilities in European and neighbouring countries. The 1990 edition of the Directory of Training Courses and Programmes 4/ contains entries for more than 500 courses in all fields of DTCD competence, with special emphasis on training facilities for TCDC.

D. Financial management

105. In 1990, the Financial Management and Budgetary Control Service (FMBCS) of DTCD continued to improve its productivity and efficiency through upgraded computerization. During the year, a Local Area Network (LAN) became operational, allowing personal computers in FMBCS to be used in a multi-purpose manner: as stand alone computers; as work stations connected to LAN; and finally as work stations connected by emulation cards through LAN to the mainframe computer. Staff were trained in operating and maintaining this system.

106. During the year, FMBCS continued to assist the United Nations team for the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) project in determining technical cooperation user requirements for the design of the new system.

E. Reports

107. In 1990, the Reports Unit of DTCD processed 35 agency terminal reports and 16 seminar reports covering the range of DTCD activities. Of the 35 agency terminal reports, 16 covered countries in Africa, 13 in Asia, 5 in the Americas and 1 in Europe. Additionally, four documents were translated and two newsletters and one publication were processed.

108. Some 300 documents were catalogued and entered on the Development Information System (DIS), which was transferred from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to DTCD on 1 January 1990. DIS is a computerized database of reference to unpublished material written by or for the United Nations on economic and social development. It provides Member States, United Nations officials and institutions active in economic and social development with rapid access to studies and reports generated by several offices of the United Nations. Development Information Abstracts, the main printed output of DIS, are issued periodically and list items recently added to the DIS database. In 1990, three issues of the Abstracts were prepared and distributed to 1,600 users and some 600 oral and written requests for searches and/or documents were handled.

III. WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

109. In 1990, some $454 million of food aid was allocated by the World Food Programme (WFP) in support of development activities in least developed, low-income and/or food deficit countries. In view of the contributions of food aid transfers as a development resource, the integration of food aid into the development policies and programmes of recipient countries calls for careful programming and case-by-case assessments of their long-term implications on food security. To this end, in 1990, DTCD scrutinized 26 WFP food aid projects valued at approximately $300 million to appraise their technical and economic feasibility, as well as their consistency with national and sectoral development policies and programmes. In addition, DTCD participated in five missions sponsored by WFP in 1990, formulating and appraising food aid projects in Bhutan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, and Mexico.

Notes

1/ On 22 May 1990, Democratic Yemen and Yemen merged to form a single State.

2/ E/1987/39 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2.

3/ Social Statistics and Indicators, Series K, No. 6 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.XVII.9).

4/ Europe and neighbouring areas. 24th ed., Geneva (TARFO/1990/DTCD).